

Bank Notes, which were effectively a form of national currency until being discontinued in the 1930s. The ledgers Lee is familiar with are not just the ones involved in the Department's budgeting, but also the original Treasury Department ledgers tracing the return and destruction of these notes. I wish Lee continued success in this field.

Above all else, Lee will leave behind a legacy of strong, calm, and effective leadership. Few can fill the multifaceted role he held at the Department but even fewer can do so in the universally respected and admired manner that he did so.

The Nation and the Department of Justice have lost a great asset. I commend Lee for his many accomplishments and for his selfless service to this country. He will be missed. On behalf of Kansans and a grateful nation, I personally thank Lee for his service to our Nation and congratulate him on his retirement; he has earned a long and fulfilling one.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING DONALD ROSS

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to Donald K. Ross, a tireless organizer for democracy. Sadly, Mr. Ross passed away on May 14, 2022, at the age of 78. He will be remembered for his lifetime of civic service and advocacy.

Born in the Bronx, NY, Mr. Ross was a leader from an early age. As student body president, he successfully revived Fordham University's football program, an experience he credited with teaching him how to organize. Upon graduation, Mr. Ross spent 2 years with the Peace Corps in Nigeria, before graduating from New York University's law school in 1970.

From there, Mr. Ross joined consumer advocate Ralph Nader's Public Citizen movement, becoming one of the original "Nader's Raiders." In 1971, they co-wrote "Action for Change: A Student's Manual for Public Interest Organizing," which led to the organization of Public Interest Research Groups—PRIGs—across the country. These organizations combine research and public action, encouraging public citizens to get involved in important advocacy issues. Mr. Ross became the director of the New York PRIG, where he advanced a number of political reforms and advocated for increased government transparency.

Mr. Ross was also an outspoken anti-nuclear advocate. After the tragic accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, Mr. Ross organized anti-nuclear rallies that drew hundreds of thousands of demonstrators. That he was able to mobilize so many people in mere weeks after the accident is a testament to his leadership skills and passion for the cause.

In addition to his organizing expertise, Mr. Ross was also a dedicated philanthropist. From 1985 to 1999, he was director of the Rockefeller Family Fund, a charitable organization where he worked to expand access to grants for charitable causes. Additionally, Mr. Ross cofounded and managed the Environmental Grantmakers Association, which has grown to include over 200 member foundations around the world. A champion of numerous causes, Mr. Ross directed the National Campaign to Reform Juvenile Justice Systems from 2009 to 2017.

In my home State, Mr. Ross organized the Connecticut Citizen Action Group, a statewide organization dedicated to actively engaging residents to build a more sustainable, just society. In this and every endeavor he undertook in his remarkable career, Mr. Ross was on the frontlines of democracy, fighting to make our world a better place.

Connecticut and the Nation have lost a great civic organizer and champion of democracy. Mr. Ross's tireless devotion to many worthy causes—from environmental protection, to consumer advocacy, to criminal justice reform, and so many others—serves as a model of dedication and civic engagement. Through his work and his writings, Mr. Ross has inspired a generation of citizens to become engaged in their communities and fight for a more just world. While he will be sorely missed, his legacy will live on in those who continue his work.

My wife Cynthia and I extend our deepest sympathies to Donald's family during this difficult time, particularly to his wife Helen, and his children Katherine, Margaret, and Mike. May their many wonderful memories of Donald provide them solace and comfort in the days ahead. I hope my colleagues will join me in remembering Donald K. Ross.●

##### RECOGNIZING DADS ON DUTY

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a group of committed Louisiana fathers making a difference in their community and the lives of their children.

Violence within the halls of Southwood High School in Shreveport reached a concerning peak in the fall of 2021, when 23 students were arrested in just 3 days.

Mr. Michael LaFitte gathered 40 fellow concerned fathers, including David Telsee, III, Michael Morgan, Zachery Johnson, and Kenneth Henry, Jr., and established a wholesome presence in the halls of Southwood High. They were able to quell conflict and violence. They are promoting peace, order, and dropping dad jokes with a profound impact. They have prevented fights and arrests since forming their group, Dads on Duty. By fostering a safer environment in Southwood High, Dads on Duty has allowed the youth to focus on learning and growing.

Dads on Duty is demonstrating a strategy they believe can benefit students in other schools. They have plans to introduce this program of engaged parents in each Caddo Parish school campus moving forward.

Dads on Duty has garnered attention at the city, parish, State, and national levels—and rightfully so. I applaud their efforts and look forward to seeing how they can continue to better our communities.●

##### REMEMBERING BRIAN DENNIS BALBUENA

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable life of Brian Dennis Balbuena, a devoted son, brother, and friend who passed away on April 3, 2022, after a hard-fought battle with brain cancer.

Born March 14, 1983, Brian used his time on earth to bring joy and light into the hearts of others. Having battled and beat cancer at the age of 5, Brian enjoyed finding new ways to "Pay it Forward" to those around him. Brian will be remembered by his family and friends as a loving and compassionate person who had a contagious smile and a presence that brightened any room he entered.

He leaves behind his incredible parents, Tina and Mark, his siblings, Amber and Dustin, and a host of nieces and nephews. May his legacy and kind spirit serve as an inspiration to us all.●

##### REMEMBERING COLONEL LOUIS "LOU" LEE MYERS, JR.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable life of retired Colonel Louis (Lou) Lee Myers, Jr., a 38-year veteran of the Illinois Army National Guard who passed away on May 10, 2022.

Colonel Myers started his career in 1948 when he joined the Illinois Army National Guard, first serving in an ordnance company and later in a field artillery unit, a part of the Illinois' 44th Infantry Division. In 1970, Colonel Myers moved to Springfield to work for the Military and Naval Department, Facilities Division. During this time, Colonel Myers began a program to rehabilitate the old armories and facilities of the State and shortly after became the chief of facilities before rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He attended the Command and General Staff School and was promoted to colonel, Chief of Staff of the Illinois Army National Guard.

After his retirement in 1986, Colonel Myers continued to serve those around him as a life member of the Reserve Officer's Association, volunteer for the ombudsman for the Department of Defense, Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee, and a very active member in his church—Petersburg United Methodist Church. In 2018, Colonel Myer was recognized as one of the top 200 veterans in Illinois for the State's 200th birthday.

He leaves behind his devoted wife Paula; three daughters, Lea Ann, Ellyn, and Kate; and four sons, Larry, Donald, Joel, and Richard. May his legacy of service and kind spirit serve as an inspiration to us all.●

#### REMEMBERING COLONEL JAMES A. SMITH, JR.

● Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable life of Retired Colonel James A. Smith, Jr., a 31 year veteran of the Illinois Army National Guard who passed away on May 11, 2022.

Colonel Smith started his career in 1977 as an enlisted soldier, commissioning in 1982 through the Illinois Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School. He served in various staff and leadership positions throughout his career in the Illinois National Guard.

In 2003, Colonel Smith was appointed as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (G-1). In this role, he played an integral role in preparing Illinois Army National Guard units for deployment to Iraq and then Afghanistan. In 2008, before his retirement, he was appointed as the Illinois Army National Guard chief of staff before being appointed the Illinois Department of Military Affairs chief of staff that same year.

As the IDMA chief of staff, Colonel Smith supported multiple Illinois National Guard deployments, the Illinois National Guard's response to floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, the 2012 NATO Summit in Chicago, and most recently, the Illinois National Guard's COVID-19 response, as well as law enforcement support missions.

Colonel Smith was proud of being an infantry officer, a devout Catholic, and an unwavering Cardinals fan. He was a strong advocate for Lincoln's Challenge Academy and its cadets, the Illinois Military Family Relief Fund, the Illinois State Military Museum, the National Guard Association of Illinois, and, most of all, the soldiers and airmen of the Illinois National Guard and their families.

Colonel Jim Smith's voice will not be heard again in the Illinois National Guard's buildings or training areas, but his spirit will remain within this organization for many generations to come. He leaves behind his wife Nilsa and their son Sam. May his legacy of service and kind spirit serve as an inspiration to us all.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SCOTT ROBINSON

● Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today, I want to recognize and offer my sincere congratulations to Scott Robinson, director of the Port of Muskogee, on his retirement after 31 years of service. I have had the pleasure of working with Scott for a number of years, and we have done a lot of good work together.

When I came to Congress, I set out with the notion to let the world know that Oklahoma is navigable, and with

Scott's help, we have been able to do that. He has been a long-time advocate for Oklahoma's inland waterways, serving on various waterways boards and commissions and testifying before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

Through his advocacy and leadership, Scott and I worked quickly to help the Port of Muskogee recover after the historic 2019 floods that decimated the Arkansas River Basin, including working to deliver millions of dollars to ensure the port could rebuild for the future. Under Scott's tenure, the port has grown tremendously as he oversaw the port's expansion of property that has allowed industries to invest over \$2 billion into the port's facilities and create more than 2,500 jobs. Because of Scott, the port is a true multimodal transportation hub for the region.

As port director, Scott never missed an opportunity to highlight the importance of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System—MKARNS—and its contribution to the long-term strength and security of the U.S. economy, including supporting thousands of jobs, and providing billions of dollars in sales impacts and transportation costs savings. His tireless work throughout the years has ensured that the Port of Muskogee and MKARNS system will continue to serve Oklahoma and our Nation for decades to come. Oklahoma and the entire Nation have benefited greatly from his leadership, and his legacy will not be soon forgotten.

Congratulations again, Scott, on your well-deserved retirement.●

#### 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINNESOTA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today, I am proud to stand with my colleague, Senator SMITH, to recognize an organization that has meant so much to the people of Minnesota.

On June 4, 2022, the Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government Program celebrates its 75th anniversary. The Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government Program is a youth-led, nonpartisan, experiential learning program that develops and promotes lifelong, active, responsible citizenship in our youth. Annually, the program brings middle and high school students from across Minnesota to create a mock State government in the State capitol, complete with legislative branches for upper and lower classmen, a court, an executive branch, lobbyists, and a press corps.

The program has been developing tomorrow's leaders since 1946 and, since that time, has served over 54,000 middle school and high school students. Today, the Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government program stands as one of the largest and longest running Youth in Government programs in the Nation.

Through Youth in Government, students learn to write bills, debate issues, argue court cases, elect their

own leaders, and actively participate in an authentic model of real-life legislative, executive, and judicial processes and structures. Youth in Government students learn about the importance of accountability, responsibility, and the value of getting involved in civic affairs while developing self-confidence and learning their voices matter and need to be heard within the State's—and Nation's—policy and decision-making process.

This vital program creates an environment for students to have meaningful and respectful conversations where students can learn from each other about today's issues while fully acknowledging that each student brings a different life experience to the table, a skill that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. It is through this experience that Youth in Government teaches young people that they have an important and immediate stake in the decisions that shape the future of not only the State of Minnesota, but of their Nation and the world.

The program motto for Minnesota Youth in Government is "Democracy must be learned by each generation," which is more important today than ever.

I ask that my colleagues join Ms. SMITH and myself in honoring the Minnesota YMCA Youth in Government Program.

#### 50TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. CALVIN MCKINNEY

● Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize and congratulate my friend the Reverend Dr. Calvin McKinney on his 50th pastoral anniversary. Pastor McKinney has served as pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of North Jersey since 1972.

Pastor McKinney's ministry is guided by Teaching and Growing a Praying People of God, whether at home in New Jersey, across our Nation, or around the world. His ministry has taken him throughout Africa, Europe, Asia, Central America, and the Caribbean Islands. Of his many accomplishments, Pastor McKinney's most memorable preaching opportunity was during the centennial session of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., in Birmingham, AL, in 1980.

In September 2009, Pastor McKinney was elected general secretary of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. He served as the youngest moderator in the history of the North Jersey District Missionary Baptist Association from 1986 to 1990, and served from 1996 through 2000 in an unprecedented tenure as one of the youngest presidents in the history of the 300,000-member General Baptist Convention of New Jersey, Inc. He was named president emeritus in recognition of his exemplary leadership.

In 2003, under the visionary leadership of Pastor McKinney, Calvary started on a journey to build a \$10 million, 1,500-seat sanctuary along with